

## Message Text

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10

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 EB-11 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 INT-08 IO-12 RSR-01 /054 W

----- 046115

R 270711 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8803

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

USUN NEW YORK 713

AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI

AMCONSUL LUANDA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LUSAKA 755

FOR COMMERCE

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ETRN, ZA

SUBJ: LOBITO TO LUSAKA FREIGHT ROUTE

REF: STATE 75174 ( NOTAL)

1. LOCAL AGENT FOR BENGUELA LINE, LEOPOLD WALFORD, TELLS US AVERAGE DELIVERY TIME LOBITO- KITWE ( CENTER OF COPPERBELT) IS 21 DAYS. COST PER 100 KG FOR NON- ELECTRICAL MINING MACHINERY IS POUNDS ( STERLING) 3.26, ELECTRICAL 3.56. PORT CHARGES AT LOBITO 8 POUNDS PER METRIC TON.

2. LIMITING FACTORS ON LOBITO ROUTE ARE AVAILABILITY AND SIZE OF FREIGHT CARS ( EMBASSY POUCHING SPECS). UNDERSTAND FROM LEOPOLD WALFORD THAT 775 FREIGHT CARS/ MONTH IN ADDITION TO PREVIOUS 1,000 ARE NOT AVAILABLE TO ZAMBIA DUE FACT ZAIRE NOW IMPORTING " VIA ANOTHER ROUTE" ( PRESUMABLY BEIRA/ RHODESIA) WHILE CONTINUING EXPORT COPPER VIA LOBITO. LOBITO CAN NOW HANDLE ABOUT 56,000 MT/ MONTH IN ZAMBIA IMPORTS, OF WHICH HALF IS BULK ( PARTICULARLY WHEAT) AND BALANCE GENERAL CARGO ( INCLUDING MINING EQUIPMENT). THOUGH THERE ARE CURRENTLY NO UNDUE DELAYS, WE NOT YET ABLE

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DETERMINE WHETHER LOBITO ROUTE WILL BE MORE RELIABLE IN  
TERMS OF TRANSIT TIME THAN DAR OR NACALA- MALAWI ROUTE. PICTURE  
WILL BECOME CLEARER ONLY WHEN RESTRICTIONS ON ZAMBIA IMPORT  
LICENSES ARE RELAXED SUFFICIENTLY TO PERMIT SOMEWHAT MORE NORMAL  
VOLUME OF IMPORTS.

3. LEOPOLD WALFORD INDICATES FURTHER DETAILS ON LOBITO ROUTE  
SHOULD BE AVAILABLE FROM THEIR CLIENT, PENSON FORWARDING CORP.,  
11 BORADWAY, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10004.  
NELSON

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NMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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**TAGS:** ETRN, ZA  
**To:** COME  
KINSHASA  
LUANDA  
LUBUMBASHI  
SECSTATE WASHDC  
USUN NEW YORK  
**Type:** TE

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